

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

75-6377/A

2 JUN 1975

Mr. Henry L. T. Koren
Deputy Under Secretary of the Army
Department of the Army
Washington, D. C. 20310

Dear Mr. Koren:

Thank you for your letter of 13 May advising me that you are having difficulty funding the Area Handbook series. Unfortunately, our tight budgetary situation will not permit CIA to contribute to the program.

Copies of the handbooks are distributed to eleven major CIA components, about half of which are occasional to frequent users of the books. Although some of our subscribers comment favorably on the coverage and content of the handbooks, none considers them essential; they are used primarily as reference aids and for the general orientation of officers taking on new assignments.

As you know, we have had to make some hard choices in recent years, and some otherwise worthwhile programs have been dropped to fund those considered more vital to our mission. You will recall that USIB reluctantly concluded two years ago that the National Intelligence Survey program would have to be discontinued. Under present circumstances, I am even less able to provide Agency support to the Area Handbook series.

Sincerely,

/s/ EIII

W. E. Colby
Director

Letter to Mr. Henry L. T. Koren, Dep. Under Sec. of the Army

CONCUR:

Acting Deputy Director for Intelligence

35

Date

Distribution:

Orig - Addressee

1 - DCI

1 - DDCI

1 - ER

1 - DDO

1 - D/DCI/IC

1 - Comptroller

1 - D/CRS

① - DDI File (Defense)

1 - DDI Chrono

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EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

Routing Slip

TO:		ACTION	INFO	DATE	INITIAL
1	DCI				
2	DDCI				
3	S/MC				
4	DDS&T	✓			
(5)	DDI	✓			
6	DDA		✓		
7	DDO		✓		
8	D/DCI/IC		✓		
9	D/DCI/NIO				
10	GC				
11	LC				
12	IG				
13	Compt		✓		
14	D/Pers				
15	D/S				
16	DTR				
17	Asst/DCI				
18	AO/DCI				
19					
20					
21					
22					
SUSPENSE		30 May Date			

Remarks:

Please coordinate as necessary and prepare reply for DCI's signature

Executive Secretary
5/15/75
Date

STAT

3637 (1-75)

MEMORANDUM FOR: ~~PVW~~ (info BP/HR)

EWP asked me to get consumer reactions to the Army handbook series before we answer this request—that we help fund the books.

The short answer is that some components like them and use the handbooks, but few would put money into it.

Assuming we decline to participate, who should draft the turndown letter?



You.

28 May 1975
(DATE)

FORM NO. 101 REPLACES FORM 10-101
1 AUG 54 WHICH MAY BE USED.

(47)

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DDI-1403-75

27 May 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence

SUBJECT : Value of Army Area Handbooks to Agency Users

1. A survey of Agency consumers of the Army's Area Handbooks made to determine their value produced a variety of replies but on the whole it appears that the Handbooks are of questionable value. Only NPIC, OCI, and one of the DDO divisions indicated any real preference for the Handbooks. None of the consumers considered the publications indispensable to his mission, but NPIC said that they were very valuable to photo interpreters and OCI reported that they were extremely useful and helpful. With the exception of OCI, none of those queried believes that the Agency should participate in funding the program. OCI suggested that since the Agency will not fund a modified NIS perhaps we should participate in funding the Handbook series.

2. Replies on the frequency of usage ranged from "often" (in the case of one DDO division) to "infrequently" or "not at all." All answered "yes" to the question of whether they can get along without the reports, with NPIC adding that there is no other single publication series that provides comparable scope and depth of coverage, and one DDO division commenting that the absence of the NIS makes the series less dispensable than previously.

3. In its letter of request to the DCI the DA requested assistance in determining the utility of the Handbooks, i.e., does the product meet the needs of the CIA staff and field offices in coverage, content, and frequency of revision. Some respondents replied "no" to this question, others said "yes" (or that it was adequate), while OCI suggested revisions every five years, OGCR stated that some factual information is inaccurate, and the OTR Library stated that more frequent revision would be helpful.

4. Thirty copies of the Area Handbooks are received in the Agency, and 24-25 copies, depending upon the area, are distributed to 11 major components. The remaining copies are forwarded to the Document Services

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Approved For Release 2005/12/24 : CIA-RDP80B01495R000200160019-6

SUBJECT: Value of Army Area Handbooks to Agency Users

Branch of CRS and all are usually distributed in response to requests for supplementary copies. The DDO and CRS components provided written replies to the questions posed in the survey while the remaining components were queried by telephone. Detailed replies by all components are summarized in the attachment.



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Director, Central Reference Service

Attachment:
As stated

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Component	No. of Cyps.	Do you consider this publication indispensable to your mission?	Are reports of sufficient value to you to merit Agency participation in funding them?	How often do you use them?	What use do you make of them? For orientation of new employees, training, production of reports?	Can you get along without the reports?	Does this report meet your needs in coverage, content, frequency of revision?
OPR	1	No	No	Very rarely	For reference in production of reports.	Yes	Excess to our needs.
NPIC	1	No, but very valuable to photo interpreters.	Provided other Agency components also need them, but not for us alone.	Frequently	Background information for PIs, orientation, and training of new employees.	Yes, but don't have any other single publication series that provides comparable scope and depth of coverage.	Coverage and content, very well; more frequent revisions would increase value.
FBIS	5	No	No	Occasionally	Orientation of new employees; training, and background in report production.	Yes	Yes
OTS	1	No	No	Infrequently	Orientation of new employees or those unfamiliar with area.	Yes	Use about 10% of content; this adequate for our needs.
OCI	1	No, but extremely useful and helpful.	OCI feels this is a loaded questionnaire; the Army Handbooks are useful substitutes for the NIS. If the Agency and USIB won't fund a modified NIS, maybe the Agency could participate in funding the Army Handbook. OCI could not participate in funding at this time.	From frequently to occasionally	All of the above.	Yes	Coverage and content meet our needs. We suggest revisions on all countries at intervals no greater than five years.

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Component	No. of Cpys.	Do you consider this publication indispen- sable to your mission?	Are reports of suffi- cient value to you to merit Agency partici- pation in funding them?	How often do you use them?	What use do you make of them? For orienta- tion of new employees, training, production of reports?	Can you get along without the reports?	Does this report meet your needs in coverage, content, frequency of revision?
ISG/CRS	1	No	No	Infrequently	Background	Yes	Yes
NIO/SSEA	1	No	No	Infrequently	Reference	Yes	Yes
CTR/LY	1	No	No	Frequently	Training in Intel- ligence Institute.	Yes	Coverage and content, good; more frequent revision would be helpful.
OTR/LLC	1	No	No	Occasionally	Mainly a reference for students preparing for overseas assignment.	Yes. Other sources more complete and information more current.	Yes

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27 May

MEMORANDUM FOR: D/CRS

Harry--

The answer to this query as to whether the Agency will help fund the Army's Area Handbook series presumably has to be negative--we don't have the money. But before saying so, Ed Proctor would like to be sure nobody in the Agency finds these books indispensable. He would like your people to check again with the recipients of the Agency's 31 copies. May we have your comments by about 27 May?

cc: Mgt Staff
CGAS



16 May 1975
(DATE)

FORM NO. 101 REPLACES FORM 10-101
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(47)



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Executive Registry

15-6377

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20310

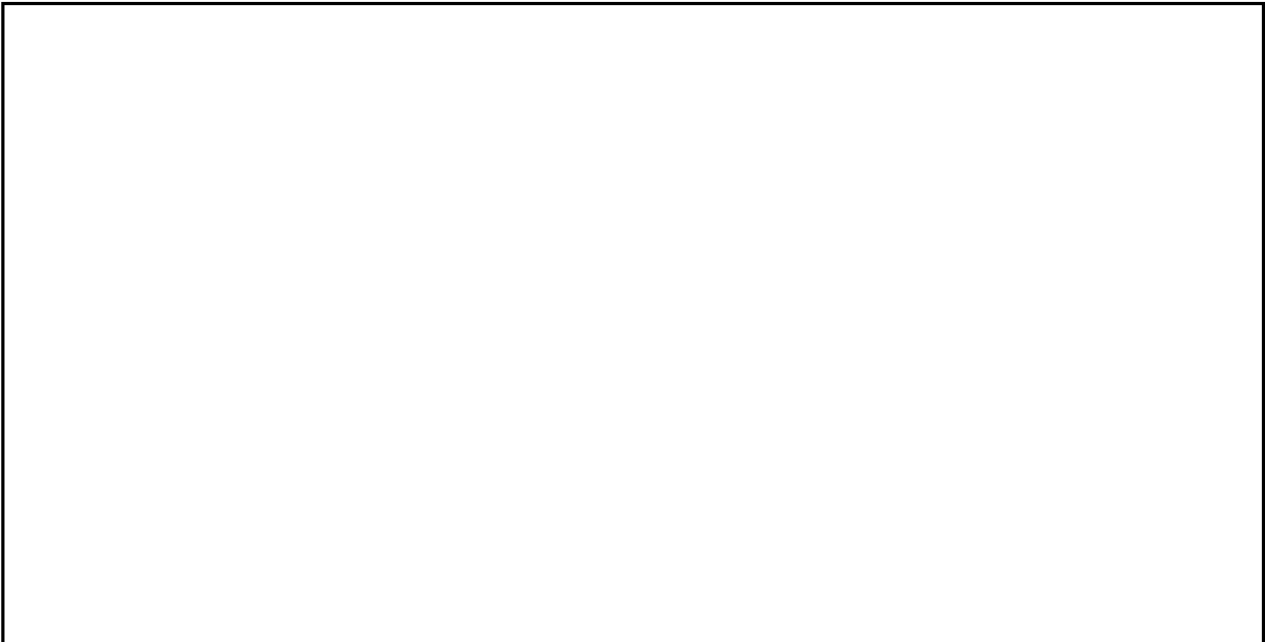
27-5

13 May 1975

Mr. William E. Colby
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Mr. Colby:

The purpose of this letter is to request your assistance in obtaining multiple agency funding for the Area Handbook Program, an Army sponsored contract with the American University.



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Next 4 Page(s) In Document Exempt

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